

# VOLTA NY

NEW YORK  
MARCH 1-5  
2017

**VOLTA NY**  
**TEN YEAR OF SOLO FOCUS**

## **YOUR BODY IS A BATTLEGROUND: PARTICIPATING ARTISTS**

VOLTA NY is pleased to announce the participating artists for *Your Body Is a Battleground*, the second iteration of the critically acclaimed **Curated Section** — a thematic exhibition within the fair, organized by an independent curator — occurring at the fair's ten-year anniversary edition at PIER 90, from March 1-5. New York-based writer-curator **Wendy Vogel** oversees this project, assembling eight artists who each foreground consideration of the precarious body and identity in a time of political turmoil.

*“The show’s title is inspired by Barbara Kruger’s agit-prop photomontage Untitled (Your Body Is a Battleground), produced for the 1989 Women’s March on Washington that protested antiabortion legislation,”* notes Vogel. *“After the enormous turnout for the recent international Women’s Marches, Kruger’s work reads as a vital precedent for art that protests the erosion of civil rights. Though these artists’ works are a generation removed from Kruger’s, they continue her legacy of examining media and representation. This show embraces an intersectional feminist point of view, acknowledging that oppressions of race, gender, class and sexuality are intertwined. I am proud that this diverse group of artists, hailing from Canada to the Caribbean, the Midwest to the South, represents many facets of the Americas.”*

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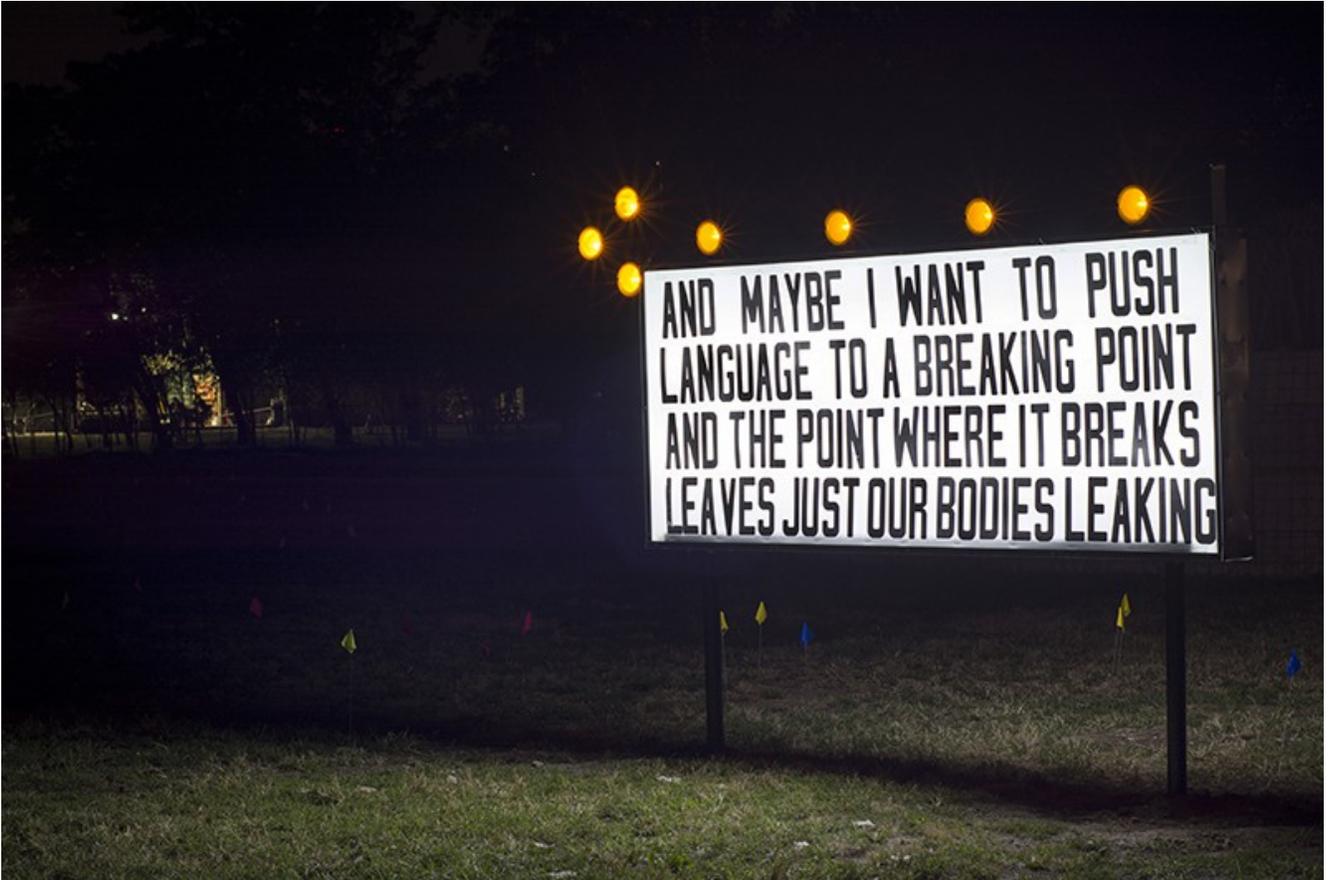


Image: Sable Elyse Smith, *And Here is a List of Names*, 2016, Illuminated flashing arrow sign, plastic letters, digital C-print, Plexiglas, 6 x 8 x 1 ft. Photo by Nate Dorr.

Exhibiting artists in *Your Body Is a Battleground* are:

**Zachary Fabri** / presented by **ROCKELMANN &** (Berlin) in collaboration with **Aljira, a Center for Contemporary Art** (Newark); **Nona Faustine** / presented by **Baxter St. at CCNY** (New York); **Joiri Minaya** / presented by **Casa Quien** (Santo Domingo); **Kent Monkman** / presented by **Peters Projects** (Santa Fe); **Deborah Roberts** / presented by **Art Palace** (Houston); **Sable Elyse Smith** / presented by **The Museum of Contemporary African Diaspora Arts (MoCADA)** (Brooklyn); **Melissa Vandenberg** / presented by **Maus Contemporary / beta pictoris gallery** (Birmingham, AL); and **Carmen Winant** / presented by **Fortnight Institute** (New York).

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Image: Joiri Minaya, Container #3, 2017, Pigment print, 44 x 63 in. Courtesy of the artist.

*“My current body of work is focused on mass incarceration,”* says exhibiting artist **Sable Elyse Smith**, who lives and works in New York. *“Using aerial views of prison complexes as a point of reference as well as the architectural materials and markings of their interiors, I extract colors (blues in particular), demarcation lines, and other fragments that touch on the experience of visiting my father in various prisons over the past 20 years. The subsequent works examine and dismantle regulatory codes that are both embedded in the body yet deeply impersonal. The body keeps the score.”*

Comments Columbus-based exhibiting artist Carmen Winant: *“The title of this show carries for me a double charge: first, how, as politically-oriented artists, do we contend with the current with current, mounting assault on women's bodies? And second, as contemporary artists, how do we contend with, and work in response to, the feminist guard that came before us (the reference of course being to Barbara Kruger's famous work)? Neither question is neatly answered.”*

**PIER 90** can be reached by public transportation via the Eighth Avenue line (E or C trains to 50th Street) or from Columbus Circle (1, A, C, B, D trains to 59th Street/Columbus Circle), as well as direct shuttle between **VOLTA NY** and **Pier 94: The Armory Show**. Additionally, **PIER 90** is connected by an elevated, covered and heated passageway to **Pier 92: The Armory Show**.

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**VOLTA NY** gratefully acknowledges **Kimpton Ink48 Hotel** as its 2017 Official Partner Hotel.

**VOLTA** was founded in Basel in 2005 by dealers Kavi Gupta (Chicago), Friedrich Looch (Berlin), and Ulrich Voges (Frankfurt). **VOLTA13** returns to **Markthalle** in Basel and coincides with Basel Art Week from June 12 – 17, 2017.

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